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## Numbers up on airlift and projected changes in KLM service announced

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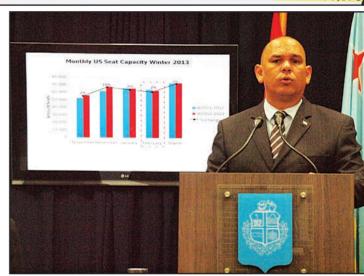
INBOUND CAPACITY W	INTER 2012-2 RUBA +7%	2013 ALL M	IARKETS
WINTER PERIOD 2012-2013			
US GATEWAYS	W2011-2012	W2012-2013	% Change
Overall	316,222	325,137	39
			8,91
CANADA	W2011-2012	W2012-2013	% Change
Overall	21,262	26,328	249
			5,066
EUROPE	W2011-2012	W2012-2013	% Change
Overall	36,671	35,972	-1.9
			11,408
LATIN AMERICA	W2011-2012	W2012-2013	% Change
			23,09
OVERALL MARKET	483,563	519,941	7%
*Winter season November 2012-Mar	ch 2013		36,37

Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber, welcomed island media to the government press room on Monday morning to confirm upcoming changes in KLM service from Amsterdam and overall increase in airlift from the U.S. over the coming winter season.

KLM officially informed the Aruba Tourism Authority that as of late October/early November, they will be flying to Aruba five times weekly with an Airbus 330-300 or Airbus 330-200 instead of the MD-11. These planes carry 292 and 243 passengers, respectively, compared to 294 on the MD-11, but are far more fuel efficient for the long haul. KLM is an important carrier and Amsterdam a vital hub for Aruba's European market, where many flights from EU nations connect to the Dutch Caribbean. Projected figures calculate a 2% increase in seat capacity from KLM, and an overall increase from the European market of 1.9%

An examination of figures to date for 2012 showed an actual overall increase of airlift to Aruba from all markets of 3% over projections. U.S. airlift was down by -2% over 2011, but Canada increased by 32%, Europe by 17% and Latin America by 14%. This is in line with Ministry of Tourism and ATA goal to diversify the demographic of visitors.

Seat capacity is not the actual number of visitors, but it



Minister Oduber

does reflect airline confidence in a destination to fill their planes. Airlines are continually looking to streamline operations and have little conscience about canceling routes they deem unprofitable. The fact that Aruba's airlift numbers stay steady, or actually increase, reflects demand for those seats. This is always encouraging for the island's tourism marketing entities. Visitors cannot come to an island if the means of transport is not available.

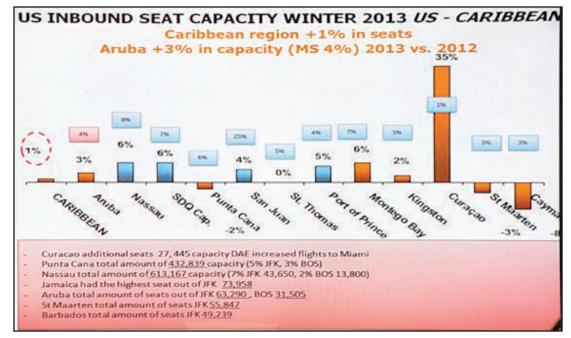
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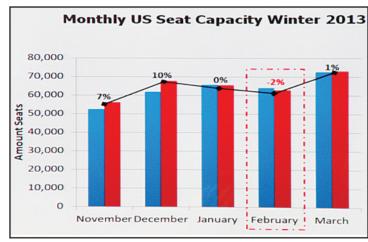


## Numbers up on airlift and projected changes Extended Study Fine in KLM service announced detrimental to

Continued from page 1



Seat capacity from U.S. to Caribbean destinations



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Thursday Cool Raffle Awg 1000,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day
Priday BlackJack Tournament \$500,Saturday KOFFIE MORGEN Cool Raffle Awg 1500,- Triple Points all day

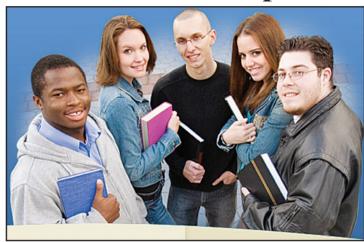
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Management reserves the right to discontinue this promotion at any time

Decrease in seats available from the U.S. can largely be credited to American Airlines discontinuing direct flights from New York and Boston this past year. Two flights daily are still coming from Miami, and the airline prefers to have passengers connect to their Miami hub; this is more cost efficient for AA.

Jet Blue and now Delta, which has announced daily flights from JFK beginning this fall, have picked up the New York slack to maintain a steady service. Service from Boston is also available with Jet Blue, and the new service from Washington/Baltimore is expected to be an important feed. Overall seat capacity from the U.S. over the winter of 2012-2013 is expected to increase. Two locally based airlines, Tiara Air Aruba and Insel Air will also be supplementing these numbers with regular direct flights from new U.S. gateways, as well as Boston.

by Rosalie Klein

# Extended Study Fine detrimental to intellectual development



ORANJESTAD -- Holland's decision to introduce a fine for extended study, called in Dutch the "langstudeerboete," for those students who take longer than the nominal prescribed program duration for their studies, is a management decision of the Dutch Government. And, according to Aruba Minister of Education, Arthur Dowers, it does not behoove Aruba to even comment on this matter. This, said Dowers, is not a measure taken by our government. However, he feels that it is our obligation and responsibility to respond to the questions he received from members of Parliament regarding this matter.

Dowers indicated to Parliament that he is not in favor of the measure, that is, the introduction of a fine for extended study as this will place an extra heavy burden on students and will be demotivative and may result in the termination of the studies. Reportedly, many students have already made the decision to stop their studies on account of this measure.

According to Dowers, while the measure may be a way for Holland to reduce expenses on education, its effect will be devastating to the intellectual development of the society

Dowers continued to observe that the introduction of a fine for extended study will jeopardize those students who for various legitimate reasons, for example, to do more internships for greater experience, to take time out to develop special talents, or to participate in research groups, etc. Incidentally, even a Dutch Olympian of the London 2012 Olympics is confronted with a fine for her extended study career.

Many Aruban students are at a disadvantage because so many change their study majors during the first year of their studies in Holland, and this causes them to run up one year over the stipulated time limit for a four year study program. According to this new law, this will result in a fine for extended study, which happens to be a steep sum!

Continued on page 5





## **Special training offered to entrepreneurs by IDEA**

ORANJESTAD -- Next month, *Iniciativa pa Desaroyo di Empresa Arubano* (IDEA) (Initiative for the development of Aruban Businesses) is introducing their very first training program, "Empresario Prepara." The program is to be offered in conjunction with the Ensenansa Pa Empleo (EPE).

Objective of this course is to help business owners to administer their business in the most efficient manner and to provide them with information and strategies on how to succeed in business.

The course is set out in three phases:

A. Phase one is business science: marketing, introduction to Aruban law, jurisprudence, business plan for your business, QuickBooks, leadership and management.

**B.** Phase Two- students will put the theories into practice. They will design a business plan and will practice managing a business.

C. Phase Three - will be an "Action Research." After completing phases A and B the student, as an entrepreneur, will go to IDEA to receive gui-



dance for their business for one year. IDEA will monitor and offer advice on different aspects of the management of their business.

The special course is scheduled to begin September 3rd 2012. The course has duration of 12 weeks and will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at Ensenansa Pa Empleo situated in the Engelandstraat 33, Eagle. The cost of the course is Afls.500. Completion of all three phases of the course is required to earn the certificate. Payment can be made in two installments of Afls. 250. First installment can be made upon registration and the second and final installment is expected at the end of October.

Criteria for attending the "Empresario Prepara" course:

- Must have a MAVO educational level or its equivalent. Diploma not necessary.

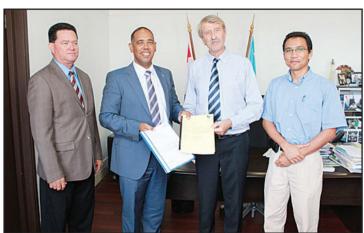
- Must have computer knowledge

- Must speak Papiamento and have basic knowledge of English.

- Registration dates are: August 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 at the offices of IDEA, located at the Department of Economic Affairs & Industry in the Sun Plaza 2nd floor. Space is limited; hence it is recommended that you apply as soon as possible.

For any further information, please contact IDEA at 583-1181 or via email at: info@idea-aruba.com.

## Report on Bouldin & Lawson's Dump Machines are revealing



This past Wednesday afternoon Minister of Infrastructure, Benny Sevinger, received the report prepared by three companies on the evaluation and test of the functionality of machines purchased for the local Waste Away Project at the Aruba Dump. The reports indicate that the machines are totally ineffective and do not comply with what was outlined in the purchase contract. This is a project that had a price tag of 28 million Aruban florins, which resulted in being a total waste of money, according to

the Minister as he based his evaluation on the content of the report.

Three experts presented their findings, namely, Leon Hammers of Polytechnisch Ingenieursbureau, Asin of Iv-Caribbean, and an international concern called Fichtner. Apparentlyh, all three came to the very same conclusion. Tests were conducted over a five day period which proved that the machines are not functional and do not comply with the stipulated requirements.

Continued on page 5



## Loyal Aruba visitors honred by the Aruba Tourism Authority





Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority honored two very special kids, who have been visiting our Island for 10 consecutive years, as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees are Morgan and Kyle Beck who are vacationing here with their parents Kenneth and Dana Beck from Trumbull CT USA, and are staying at the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club.

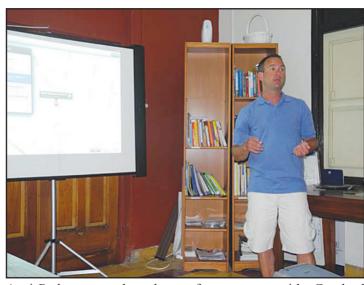
The certificates were presented to them by Mr. Ernest Giel together with Mrs. Gail Sahit representing the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club.

Also honored as Ambassador of Goodwill of Aruba was Mr. Terry K. Smith. He has been visiting the island for more than 20 consecutive years.

Terry is visiting the island in the company of his beloved mother Mrs. Sally Smith and Aunt Mrs. Kathryn Hutchinson and they are staying at the Paradise Beach Villas.

The certificate was presented to him by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Bianca Ali representing the Paradise Beach Villas.

# Special workshop by expert on the use of i-Pad for Autistic Children



An i-Pad or any other electronic device can be a valuable tool for autistic children. It has been proven that early personal intervention may be the most appropriate method in helping autistic children to develop.

Mark Mautone, expert on the education of autistic children, is considered a renowned specialist in the teaching of ABB (Applied Behavior Analysis - from New Jersey. He is currently conducting a research project at Caldwell College on the use of i-Pads by autistic children.

for persons with Cerebral Trauma, according to Brainline.org. Brainline.org is the organization which supports the US Ministry of Defense and the Center for Veterans with Cerebral Trauma. He is also member of the Alliance for the Access of Technology and an associate of Apple in their i-Work Suite.

Together with Fundacion Autismo Aruba, Mautone will be offering a special workshop to show how we can make much better use of technology to amplify the possibilities of children with autism. Before they can give



Mautone is a regular visitor to Aruba. This is his tenth visit here. Three years ago he met Maureen Kelly, who is the mother of an autistic child in Aruba. Mautone offered a special lecture for mothers with autistic children back then. This time, he is collaborating with CEDES and Fundacion Autismo Aruba to do another presentation on Aruba. His focus this time will be on the use of i-Pads as an educational tool to help educate autistic children.

Mautone is the developer of the aps of ITGPADD, which is considered one of the 27 most revolutionary aps

an autistic child an i-Pad, those who will be educating them, whether parents, or teachers, must first understand the potential of the system.

President of FAA, Vallejo-Echeverry and Dilma Arends expressed their gratitude for Mautone's gracious offer to give the workshop here.

Mautone also expressed his pleasure in being able to share his knowledge with the Aruban community along the lines of autism. He is happy to join forces with CEDES and FAA for this workshop to be held here.

## Report on Bouldin & Lawson's Dump Machines are revealing

Continued from page 3



According to the Minister there is nothing that can be done with the results obtained. Armed with the reports, he is on his way to Parliament to provide Parliament with an explanation.

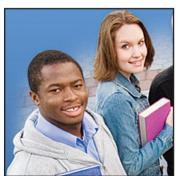
Last year, Parliament requested that a test run be done on the machines. According to Sevinger, in order to do that test run, they had to purchase parts to the tune of almost one million Aruban florins! It resulted that the government did not have the money to purchase the required parts to make these brand new machines run for a test run. So, they proceeded to test the machines as is to verify whether they work or not. The test run proved that the machines are seriously deficient and do not comply with any of the conditions stipulated in the contract.

According to Sevinger, even if the machines had tested out at 100%, there is yet another very crucial problem to solve, and that is: you will need another machine (more investment of millions) to rework the fluff coming out of these machines. The fluff produced by the machines are contaminated with toxins, hence can not be used until the toxins are removed, for which you would need that other machine. Or else, the fluff will be unusable as it comes out completely contaminated!

Sevinger stated, "we are faced with a machine that costed 28 million Aruban florins but that is totally nonfunctional and which do not solve our waste problem.

## Extended Study Fine . . .

Continued from page 2



Aruba will help prevent students from falling prey to this fine by trying to prepare them much better during the period when they are to choose their profession of choice and study program, according to Minister Dowers. The Minister made reference to the American system which prepares students through an in-depth orientation phase before they ultimately choose their area of study. This, he says is what we must

be doing here. Such an orientation system is now being used by several oriental countries and the result is that students are much better prepared and do complete their studies within the nominal study period.

Dowers does not see how the Dutch extended study fine will help solve the problem in Holland. In his view, it will only create additional problems. He says..."we must be more flexible when it comes to studies."

The Minister reported that there are discussions taking place in Holland with respect to the same ideas that he has regarding the issue of the extended study fine, and there is the possibility that they may even discontinue the policy all together.



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## Isaac could become hurricane before reaching Haiti

MIAMI (AFP) - Tropical Storm Isaac barreled towards the Dominican Republic and Haiti yesterday, as forecasters warned it could turn into a hurricane that hits Hispaniola and Guantanamo Bay by the weekend.

Hurricane-force winds and heavy rain could hit parts of Hispaniola, the Caribbean island divided between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, as early as today, the Miamibased National Hurricane Center said.

"Strengthening is forecast during the next 48 hours and Isaac could become a hurricane today before it reaches Hispaniola," the NHC said. "Preparations to protect life and property should be rushed to completion."

Isaac was to pass south of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico yesterday, and approach the Dominican Republic early today. Haiti is particularly vulnerable because thousands of people are still living in makeshift homes, two years after an earthquake devastated the capital Port-au-Prince and killed an estimated 250,000 people.

The storm was on track to make landfall in Cuba on tomorrow at Guantanamo, the site of the US naval base and prison that houses the alleged September 11 plotters and other detainees from the socalled "War on Terror."

Several hundred people were evacuated from the base yesterday, and legal proceedings against the alleged masterminds of the 2001 attacks on New York and Washington were postponed as the base buckled down for the storm.

The storm was packing maximum sustained winds of 65 kilometers (40 miles) an hour, and moving at a speed of 24 kilometers (15 miles) and hour.

Isaac could cross Hispaniola tomorrow, reaching Cuba between tomorrow and Sunday, then reaching Florida on Monday and Tuesday, just in time for the US Pepublican party's National Convention in Florida.

Republican delegates from around the country will be in Tampa, Florida for four days to formally nominate former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney to challenge President Barack Obama in the November 6 election.

But meteorologists caution that it is too early to accurately predict Isaac's path.

Meanwhile a second tropical depression gained strength in the eastern Atlantic and became Tropical Storm Joyce, the NHC said, though there was no immediate threat to land.

Joyce was far from land and was not forecast to change in strength over the next 48 hours, the NHC said late yesterday.



## Sierra Leone cholera spreads, death toll hits 220

FREETOWN (AFP) - Sierra Leone's health ministry said yesteray that deaths from a cholera outbreak had reached 220, affecting over 12,000 people in the west African nation, which is struggling to

curb the disease.

This is two more districts than were reported last week when the death toll stood at 176, prompting President Ernest Koroma to declare the outbreak a "public health

emergency."

International health organisations are grappling to stem the spread of the outbreak which has also hit neighbouring Guinea.



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## International news

## Texas judge warns of civil war if Obama re-elected

CHICAGO (AFP) - A Texas county judge is using the threat of a possible civil war if President Barack Obama is reelected to argue for a tax increase to hire more sheriff's deputies.

Lubbock County Judge Tom Head claimed that Obama will try to "hand over the sovereignty of the United States to the UN" if he wins the November election. Head, who as a county administrator oversees emergency management, said that if that happens the citizens of Texas will not stand

"I'm thinking the worst. Civil unrest, civil disobedience, civil war maybe. And we're not just talking a few riots here and demonstrations, we're talking Lexington, Concord, take up arms and get rid of the guy," Head said in an interview with the local Fox

News affiliate Tuesday. "Now what's going to happen if we do that, if the public decides to do that? He's going to send in UN troops. I don't want 'em in Lubbock County. OK. So I'm going to stand in front of their armored personnel carrier and say 'you're not coming in here'

'And the sheriff, I've already asked him, I said 'you

gonna back me' he said, 'yeah, I'll back you.' Well, I don't want a bunch of rookies back there. I want trained, equipped, seasoned veteran officers to back me.'

Head told the local paper Wednesday that his comments were taken out of context and explained that he was just using the possibility of a civil war as an example of a potential "worst case scenario."

"Does that mean I think the UN is going to come rolling into Lubbock, no that probably is not going to happen. An F5 tornado is probably not going to hit Lubbock. But I have to prepare for that," he said in a video posted on the Lubbock Avalanche Journal's website.

He said a far more likely scenario is that the United States will face an economic collapse if Obama is reelected. Head went on to explain that while he fears the resulting social unrest elsewhere in the country he thinks the neighborliness of west Texans will help Lubbock weather the financial

Head also insisted that he was not personally a threat to president, although he told the paper he was "surprised" that militia groups "haven't been more vocal."

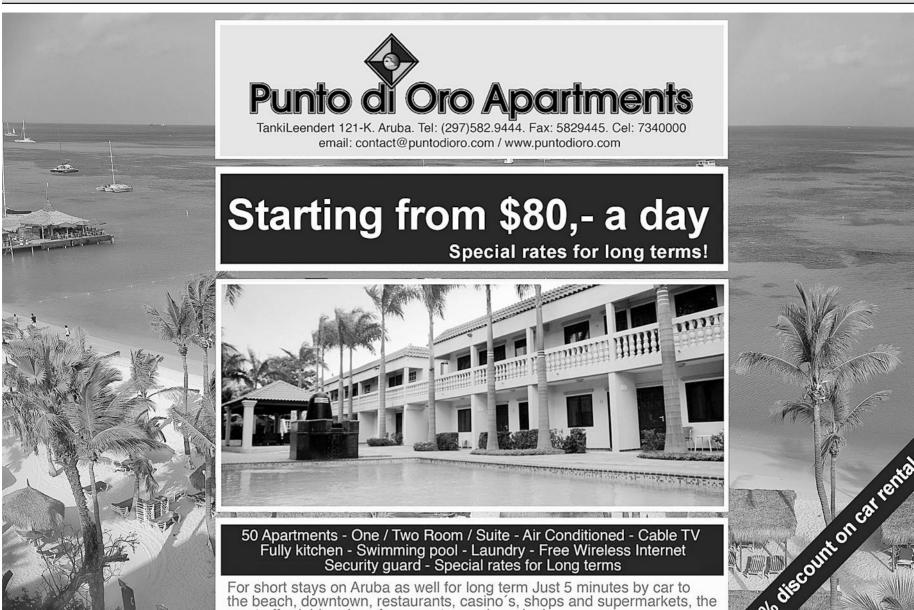
## Russia asks US to extradite arms smuggler Bout

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russia for- mission from Viktor Bout's mally yesterday asked Washington to extradite arms smuggler Viktor Bout after a US court jailed him for 25 years for conspiring to supply anti-American guerrillas in Colombia.

Moscow's justice ministry said it sent the petition for Bout to serve his time in Russia after getting written per-

wife Alla, a condition it said was imposed by justice officials in the United States.

Bout denies trying to organise the 2008 sale out of a Bangkok hotel room for which he was convicted and accuses US authorities of proposing the deal to him themselves as an excuse to arrest him in a sting operation.



## Forbes: Merkel, Clinton most Priest warns of security powerful' women

NEW YORK(AFP) - German Chancellor Angela Merkel and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton are the world's most powerful women, according to Forbes magazine's annual survey. Following the two stateswomen in the 2012 rankings was Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff.

The list covers women in fields as diverse as politics, business, media, entertainment and non-profits, their rankings determined by calculating wealth, media presence and overall impact.

The 100-strong list at www.forbes.com/powerwomen includes 25 CEOs overseeing \$984 billion in revenues. The women come from a total of 28 countries, with an average age of 55.

Sixteen women enter the list for the first time, including singer Jennifer Lopez, former US Republican presidential candidate Michele Bachmann, Meg Whitman of HP and Marissa Mayer of Yahoo.

Lady Gaga, the pop singer, makes it to 14 and at 26 years old is the youngest. The oldest, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, who is 86, ranks only at num-



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Hillary Clinton (L) with Angela Merkel

ber 26.

Others in the top tier include US First Lady Michelle Obama at seven, and Indian President Sonia Gandhi at six. The first female executive editor of The New York Times, Jill Abramson, is at five, while influential philanthropist Melinda Gates is ranked fourth.

For Merkel, the top spot comes for the second year in a row and reflects her role in trying to resolve the European Union's financial crisis. She "is the 'Iron Lady' of the European Union and the lead player in the euro zone economic drama that continues to threaten global markets," Forbes said.

Clinton, the magazine says, "has had a formidable past 12 months" and is set to resign at the end of they year.

Another major US political figure, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, makes nine on the list. She is also the first female head of that department.

"This year's Power Women exert influence in very different ways, and to very different ends, and all with very different impacts on the global community," said Moira Forbes, president of ForbesWoman.

"Whether leading multi-billion-dollar companies, governing countries, shaping the cultural fabric of our lives, or spearheading humanitarian initiatives, collectively these women are changing the planet in profoundly powerful and dynamic ways.'

## risk in pope's visit to Lebanon

ROME (AFP) - The pope's safety could be at risk during a planned visit to Lebanon next month, a Jesuit priest who was recently forced to leave Syria warned Wednesday.

Pope Benedict XVI is due to visit Lebanon from September 14-16 to bring a message of peace and call for greater respect for religious pluralism.

Even though his special protective car -- the "popemobile" -- has been sent to Beirut, questions are swirling about the safety of a trip to a country linked to the raging conflict in Syria.

The pope "must ask for help from a secret service that can guarantee his security. Because the Lebanese services are not sufficient in this situation," Father Paolo Dall'Oglio warned.

Lebanon's Sunni communities largely oppose Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, while its Alawites, who belong to the same minority as the Syrian leader, are pro-Damascus. Deadly clashes between the two groups are on the rise.

Dall'Oglio was kicked out of Syria in June over his activism.

He added that Lebanon is fraught with risk because the current Lebanese government "is in some ways still tied to the Syrian regime"

Christians and Muslims pray side by side at an ancient Syrian monastery that Dall'Oglio restored, and the priest has been a constant voice calling for a democratic solution to the Syrian crisis.

The priest said he hoped the pope would show that Christians "support human rights, are for civil emancipation and have taken a historic stance against political corruption and totalitarianism."

"They must be sincere partners with Muslims in the construction of a brotherly and non-discriminatory East."

Syria has a small but influential Christian minority that has traditionally enjoyed harmonious relations with the Muslim majority as well as with the regime of President Bashar al-Assad and his father and predecessor, Hafez.



## **Health & Living**

## Syphilis scare prompts call to halt US porn shoots

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Reports of several cases of syphilis among porn actors in California has prompted a trade group to call for a temporary halt to shooting in the lucrative US adult film industry.

The Free Speech Coalition, which brings together porn film producers, has advocated a "temporary moratorium on production until the risk to performers in the industry has been properly assessed and all performers have been tested."

Once treated with antibiotics, infected actors will be able to resume work within 10 days, it added in a statement on its website, saying that testing was ongoing.

Last week, health officials in Los Angeles County announced they were investigating an increase in syphilis cases in the porn industry -- at least five in the previous week.

On Tuesday, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), which wants mandatory condom use by porn actors, said "reliable sources" suggest there could be as many as nine industry-related syphilis cases, "a number that will likely grow."

AHF, active in the fight against AIDS, is hoping California voters will approve a proposal on November 6 that would require the use of condoms during porn film shoots. The city of Los Angeles adopted such language in January.

The X-rated movie industry temporarily halted filming last year after an actor tested positive for HIV.

According to Film LA, about five percent of the 45,500 film shoots authorized annually in the city are for porn films.

## Tea tree oil (Melaleuca alternifolia [Maiden & Betche] Cheel)



Tea tree oil is obtained by steam distillation of the leaves of Melaleuca alternifolia . Tea tree oil is purported to have antiseptic properties and has been used traditionally to prevent and treat infections. While numerous laboratory studies have demonstrated antimicrobial properties of tea tree oil (likely due to the compound terpinen-4-ol), only a small number of high-quality trials have been published. Human studies have focused on the use of topical tea tree oil for fungal infections (including fungal infections of the nails and athlete's foot), acne, and vaginal infections. However, there is a lack of definitive available evidence for the use of tea tree oil in any of these conditions, and further study is warranted. Tea tree oil should not be used orally; there are reports of toxicity after consuming tea tree oil by mouth. When applied to the skin, tea tree oil is reported to be mildly irritating and has been associated with the development of allergic contact dermatitis, which may limit its potential as a topical agent for some patients.

### Children of older men have more gene abnormalities

(AFP) - Do older fathers doom their children to genetic disease? This is the question raised by a new study that says older men produce more gene mutations in the children they sire, boosting their risk of schizophrenia and autism and possibly other diseases.

A father's age is by far the biggest factor determining the rate of new, uninherited genetic mutations in his offspring, according to a paper published Wednesday in the journal Nature.

From a man's peak reproductive years in adolescence, the rate of new or "de novo" gene mutations triggered at conception in his children rises by about two per year, the study found.

The rate doubles every 16 years, meaning that the baby of a 36-year-old father would have twice as many new mutations than that of a 20-year-old.

# US finds lead poisoning from Ayurvedic medicines



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US health researchers said Thursday that they have documented lead poisoning risks among pregnant women who took Ayurvedic medicine and issued a new warning on the safety of traditional pills.

New York City health authorities probed six cases since last year of women -- all but one born in India -- found to be at high risk of lead poisoning due to Ayurvedic medicine, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

Ayurveda, or long-life science, is a system of traditional medicine developed over thousands of years in India.

The pills -- none made in the United States -- are occasionally contaminated during manufacturing but some are "rasa shastra," the Indian practice of intentionally adding metals, minerals or gems to medicine.

The medicines are advertised as helping with pregnancy and at least one boasted that it would boost the chances of having a boy instead of a girl, said the report by the US government health organization.

While the six women have not shown symptoms, authorities found them to be at high risk of lead poisoning, which can damage the brain, kidneys and nervous and reproductive systems.

"Pregnant women present a unique concern, because lead exposure can adversely affect the health of both mother and child. Fetal lead exposure increases the risks for low birth weight, developmental delay, reduced intelligence and behavioral problems," it said.

The products contained up to 2.4 percent lead and some also contained mercury and arsenic, which are also considered dangerous for consumption. The US Food and Drug Administration warned in 2008 to use caution when taking Ayurvedic medicines -- especially those sold over the Internet -- as they are generally not approved by regulators.



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## **Sci-Tech**

## Sony to cut 15% of mobile phone workforce



(AFP) - Sony said Thursday it would chop 15 percent of the workforce at its struggling mobile phone unit and move its headquarters to Tokyo from Sweden as the Japanese conelectronics sumer giant slashes costs

The move to cut 1,000 jobs at Sony Mobile Communications comes about six months after Sony bought Swedish telecom company Ericsson's share in their former joint venture, called Sony Ericsson, set up in 2001.

The joint venture struggled to launch popular smartphones amid stiff competition from rivals including Apple and South Korea's Samsung Electronics.

On Thursday, Sony said the job cuts in Sweden, expected to be completed by 2014, were part of a bid to "increase operational efficiency, reduce costs and drive profitable growth".

Sony, which makes PlayStation game consoles and Bravia televisions, has already said it would cut about 10,000 jobs worldwide and spend nearly \$1.0 billion on an overhaul that its chief Kazuo Hirai described as "urgent".

The Japanese firm lost a whopping 456.66 billion yen (\$5.81 billion) in the year to March, its fourth consecutive annual loss.

It also reported a widening loss in its latest quarter and cut a profit forecast for the year as the struggling firm overhauls its business.

The losses have been particularly acute in Sony's television business. Japanese electronics firms have been hurt by a strong yen, shrinking profit margins and stiff competition from foreign rivals.

Piracy has threatened its music and film assets while Sony was also hurt by last year's quake-tsunami disaster in Japan.



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## **India warns Twitter over** ethnic violence rumours

(AFP) - India threatened to take action on Thursday against Twitter over content alleged to have inflamed ethnic tensions, as leaked docurevealed ments the government scrambling to censor online material.

More than 309 orders have been issued demanding the removal of posts, images and links on websites including Facebook and Twitter as well as Australian news channel ABC, broadcaster Al-Jazeera and London's The Daily Telegraph newspaper.

government has The blamed Internet sites for spreading rumours that Muslims would attack students and workers who have migrated from the northeast to live in Bangalore and other southern cities.

Tens of thousands of people fled back to India's remote northeast region last week, fearing an outbreak of vio-

The Times of India newspaper said that the government had set a deadline of next week for Twitter to respond.



(AFP) - NASA's Mars rover Curiosity on Wednesday made its first test drive, leaving wheel tracks near its landing spot -- now dubbed "Bradbury Landing" in honor of late science fiction author Ray Bradbury. The \$2.5 billion craft -- which landed in Gale Crater on the Red Planet on August 6 -- drove about four meters (yards) forward, before turning right at a 90 degree angle and moving backwards a few meters. An image taken by the rover clearly shows its wheel tracks on Martian soil. More tests will be conducted before Curiosity takes off on its full mission to search for signs of life on the Red Planet. Scientists do not expect Curiosity to find aliens or living creatures but they hope to use it to analyze soil and rocks for signs the building blocks of life are present and may have supported life in the past. The project also aims to study the Martian environment to prepare for a possible human mission there in the coming years. US President Barack Obama has vowed to send humans to the planet by 2030.



### **PICKLES**



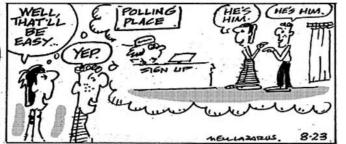






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### **ACROSS**

- 1. Sign of nerves
- 4. Chum 7. Has lunch
- 11. Fraternity
- letter 12. Jogger's
- measure 13. "\_
- \_\_ a song go..."
- 14. Beaver's handiwork
- 15. Mighty small mite
- 16. Tag, for one
- 17. Dippers for dip
- 20. Mall unit
- 22. Filbert, e.g.
- 23. In . (stagnant)
- 24. Turn or over follower
- 26. Oklahoma town
- 29. Up to the task 30. Mount \_\_\_\_.
- Texas
- 31. Fluffy or Fido
- 32. Three-point Scrabble tiles "God's Little
- 34. Basilica area
- 35. Birmingham's st.
- 36. Famed dragon 37. Backvard
- amenity 42. Fauntleroy,
- for one 43. Hydrox alternative

- 47. Gone
- 48. Anecdotal wisdom
- 50. Candied
- spearean confusion
- 52. Notable time

- 2. Call \_\_\_ night
- 3. Tenters'
- festivities 4. Hummus
- holder 5. Plenty

- 44. Pod occupant
- 49. Vex
- tubers
- 51. Shake-

### **DOWN**

- 1. Danson of "Becker"

- 6. Summer beverage

- women
- 18. Crumb
- 19. Bandage's target

- 24. Pepsi's

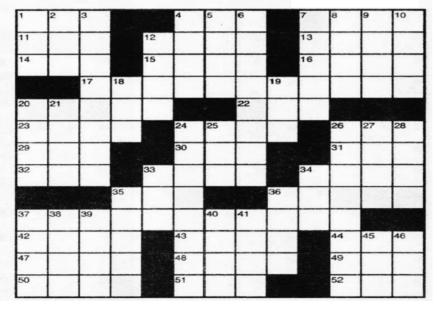
- 26. American as
- 27. Actor Arnaz
- 28. To

- 33. MacGraw of
- 7. Octet number
- 8. Jai \_
- 9. Forecast abbr.
- 10. Holy Fr.
- 12. Deck figure
- 20. Money vault
- 21. Pare
- competitor
- 25. Bobby of
- hockey

(exactly)

SUMMER SUPPER

- films
- 34. Every last one
- 35. Capp and
- Gump 36. Clarinet's
- cousin 37. "Macbeth," for
- one
- 38. "Field of Dreams"
- setting 39. Bone up in a
- hurry 40. Walked (on)
- 41. Flying: prefix
- 45. Transgress
- 46. Police blotter abbr.



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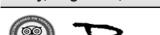
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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### **FINANCE**

## Romney says he would replace Fed chief Bernanke

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney said yesterday that he would replace Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke if he wins election to the White House in November.

Romney told Fox Business television that he wanted someone to lead the US central bank who is more in tune with his own economic thinking.

"I want to make sure that the Federal Reserve focuses on maintaining the monetary stability that leads to a strong dollar, and confidence that America is not going to go down the road that other nations have gone down to their peril," Romney told the broadcaster in an interview.

Bernanke has been chairman of the Fed since February 2006, named by Republican president George W. Bush for a four-year term and approved by the US Senate.

After leading the Fed through the US financial crisis and deep 2008-2009 recession, he was renewed as chairman by Democratic President Barack Obama in February 2010, again earning easy Senate confirmation.

It was not immediately clear if Bernanke could be removed ahead of the expiration of his term if Romney wins the election and assumes the presidency in January 2013.



A man shovels grain at a farm in he southern Russian Krasnodar region. Russia's agriculture minister yesterday lowered the country's grain output forecast to 75 million tons after already reducing 2012 expectations because of drought conditions in farming regions.

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## HSBC: China manufacturing hits nine-month low

BEIJING (AFP) -- china's manufacturing activity fell to a nine-month low in August as firms struggled with global woes, providing further impetus for Beijing to beef up economic stimulus efforts, HSBC said YESTERday.

Preliminary figures from the British banking giant's closely watched purchasing managers' index (PMI), which gauges nationwide manufacturing activity, hit 47.8 this month, the lowest since November, HSBC said in a statement.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 points to

contraction.

The preliminary result, down from a final reading of 49.3 in July, showed that Chinese manufacturers are still wrestling with declining overseas demand amid the slowing global economy, said Qu Hongbin, a Hong Kong-based economist with HSBC.

"Falling orders dragged down the August flash PMI to a nine-month low, suggesting Chinese producers are still struggling with strong global headwinds," he said in the statement.

New export business declined at its sharpest rate since March 2009, HSBC said, without giving a figure.

"To achieve the stated policy goal of stabilizing growth and the jobs market, Beijing must step up policy easing to lift infrastructure investment in the coming months," Qu said.

HSBC is scheduled to release the final PMI for this month on September 3.

Zhang Zhiwei, an economist with Nomura International in Hong Kong, said that the lacklustre PMI reading suggested economic momentum likely remained weak in August and agreed that policy makers would probably be forced to move again.

## Fed nets \$17.7 bn profit from AIG bailout

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US Federal Reserve said yesterday it had sold the last of its investment in insurer AIG, turning a \$17.7 billion profit for the public from its 2008 bailout

The New York Fed's final sale of its American International Group-related assets made a net gain of about \$6.6 billion, the central bank announced.

"The total net profit to taxpayers from the New York Fed's assistance to AIG and AIG-related facilities was \$17.7 billion," it said in a statement.

"The completion of the sale of the Maiden Lane III portfolio marks the end of an important chapter -- our assistance to AIG -- that was undertaken to stabilize the financial system in the midst of the financial cri-

YESTERDAY'S												
<b>Crossword Answer</b>												
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sis," William Dudley, president of the New York Fed, said.

"I am pleased that we were able to achieve our principal goal, which was to protect the US economy from the potentially devastating effects of AIG's failure, while demonstrating sound stewardship of taxpayer interests."

AIG, once the world's largest insurance company, was closely involved in the risky derivatives at the center of the 2008-2009 financial crisis. The Fed and the US Treasury rescued it from bankruptcy with a record \$182 billion bailout.

As part of the financial

market bailout, the Fed took unprecedented actions, creating three limited liability companies known as Maiden Lane, to absorb toxic assets from AIG and other financial institutions at risk.

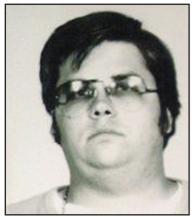
The first Maiden Lane was created to help the merger of JPMorgan Chase and Bear Stearns; the remaining two were aimed at easing capital and liquidity pressures on AIG, which was reeling under soured bets after the collapse of US housing market bubble.

The final sale of Maiden Lane III assets yesterday closes the Fed's involvement in AIG



NEW YORK: A jeweler handles a gold chain at a store in the jewelry district in New York City. Following the release of minutes from the Federal Reserve's recent ratesetting meeting, gold prices rose for a sixth day to a 3-1/2 month high with platinum gaining 1.1 percent. (AFP PHOTO)

## John Lennon's killer denied parole again



NEW YORK (AFP) - Mark David Chapman, who shot dead Beatles star John Lennon in 1981, was denied parole from prison on Thursday for the seventh time, officials said Thursday.

Chapman, 57, was told by

the New York State Board of Parole at a hearing on Wednesday that despite his good behavior behind bars, he could not be freed.

"Your release at this time would greatly undermine respect for the law and tend to trivialize the tragic loss of life which you caused as a result of this heinous, unprovoked, violent, cold and calculated crime," the board said in its decision.

Chapman will get another chance in two years.

The board praised his good conduct, including "educational accomplishments" and "remorse," but said it had also taken into account "significant

opposition to your release."

Chapman was sentenced in 1981 to between 20 years and life in prison for Lennon's murder on December 8, 1980, as the legendary singer-song-writer was walking with his wife Yoko Ono to their home by New York's Central Park.

Chapman, who was mentally unstable and just 25 at the time, had staked out the musician's apartment building.



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## Ham-fisted amateur botches 'restoration' of Christ painting



MADRID (AFP) - An elderly woman's catastrophic attempt to "restore" a century-old oil painting of Christ in a Spanish church has provoked popular uproar, and amusement. The well-intentioned but ham-fisted amateur artist, in her 80s, took it upon herself to fill in the patches and paint over the original work, which depicted Christ crowned with thorns, his sorrowful gaze lifted to heaven. Her work done, the "restored" figure looks somewhat like a monkey with fur surrounding a pale face and a child-like drawing of eyes, a cartoon-style nose and a crooked smudge for a mouth. Titled "Ecce Homo" (Behold the Man), the original was no masterpiece, painted in two hours in 1910 by a certain Elias Garcia Martinez directly on a column in the church at Borja, northeastern Spain. It showed its age, too, with humidity in the Iglesia del Santuario de Misericordia gradually eating away at patches of paint. But the new version has become a national joke, reminiscent of fictional film character Mr. Bean's comic attempt to restore Whistler's Mother after he sneezes on it and mistakenly wipes off the face. The town hall has not yet decided whether to sue over the botch job, which was performed a month ago but has only now hit the headlines in the Spanish press. A team of art restoration experts - professionals this time -- will evaluate the damage to see if the work can be restored to its original state, he said.

## Jackson's nephew named kids' permanent co-guardian

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A judge in Los Angeles on Wednesday named Michael Jackson's nephew TJ permanent co-guardian of the late King of Pop's three children, a position he will share with the singer's mother Katherine.

The decision brought to an end the latest drama to disrupt the Jackson family since the pop star's sudden death in June 2009 at age 50 from an overdose of propofol, a powerful anesthetic.

"It's clear to me the children have a very strong, loving relationship with TJ Jackson," said Los Angeles Superior Court judge Mitchell Beckloff.

Katherine Jackson, 82, had been the sole guardian of

Prince Michael (15), Paris (14) and Blanket (10) since Jackson's death.

TJ Jackson, the 34-year-old son of Michael's brother Tito, last month was named temporary co-guardian of the children due to Katherine's prolonged absence from her California home, during which she did not contact the kids.

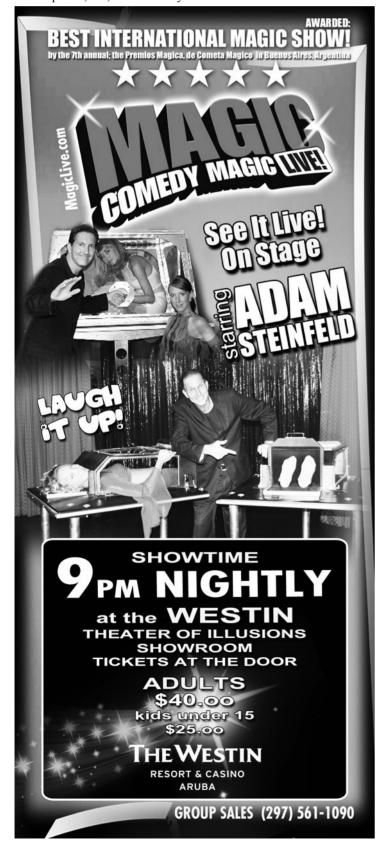
The family matriarch was found to be resting at a spa in Arizona, though her whereabouts had been called into question by other members of the Jackson clan.

Entertainment media portrayed Katherine Jackson's absence as an abduction by Michael's siblings, who are allegedly furious they did not inherit any of the singer's assets, which were left to his mother and children.

Katherine Jackson was reinstated as permanent guardian of the children earlier this month, but she and TJ filed a joint request to the court asking that they be allowed to serve as co-guardians of the three children.

Katherine's lawyer, Sandra Ribera, said her client approved of the agreement with TJ who, like many members of the Jackson family, is a musician.

"Mrs. Jackson is a well-informed, strong woman who makes her own decisions and can't be influenced by anyone when it comes to these children," Rivera said in court.



## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready in-

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and fami- lies, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and minimall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers,

airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for Concierge services to arrange

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



rental cars, spa appointments activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba. com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

## 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great fresh potatoes, Aaron has burger for lunch or dinner has been working for months on just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the home fries recipe, chunky best breakfast bargains to be and tender with skins still on; found in Palm Beach. Own- after much testing and tasters Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: from his harshest critic, a home on paradise while Rosie; so this is another treat welcoming all and sundry to you have to try. their proud undertaking, 5



Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a be shared by two. He was unique menu from an interna-

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron.
Upon entering 5 Burgers
Aruba in The Village Mall in with vinegar, and you'll won-Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is gourmet cheeseburger. burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% American treat.

served until 11 a.m. Famous are happy with their meal. for their fries made from

devising the most irresistible ing, he got the thumbs up

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to very amused to watch a fationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

wery amused to watch a latitude with a latitude with a strating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet

> der how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the pure beef, the kind that made high-rise and low-rise hotel the hamburger a traditional and beach district at now extra cost for orders over However, beginning at 7 \$50. Enjoy a great lunch a.m., patrons can now order 2 without ever leaving the eggs any style, (omelets with beach by calling 586-3904. 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and However, we suggest you coffee with unlimited refills stop by and enjoy their aufor the special introductory thentic, heartfelt hospitality; price of only \$3.99, or All- it is not unusual for either you-can-eat pancakes, for owner to sit and chat, sharing \$6.99, again, with free refills their knowledge of the island on fresh coffee. Breakfast is while making sure patrons



## **SPORTS**

## Olympics: Hyundai Motor gives \$1.4 mn to archery champions



Hyundai Motor Vice Chairman Chung Eui-sun (center) poses with London Olympic gold medalists Ki Bo-bae (left) and Oh Jin-hyek at an event honoring the Olympic archery team.

SEOUL (AFP) - South Korea's top automaker has given a 1.6 billion won (\$1.4 million) reward to the archery squad which won three golds and a bronze at the London Olympics, a spokeswoman said Thursday.

Hyundai Motor chairman Chung Mong-Koo gave 250 million won to Ki Bo-Bae, gold medallist in both the women's individual and team matches, and 200 million won to men's individual champion and team bronze medallist Oh Jin-Hyek.

Lee Sung-Jin and Choi Hyeon-Ju, who won a gold in the women's team event, received 120 million won each. Im Dong-Hyun, who is legally blind, and Kim Bub-Min were given 50 million won each for winning bronze in the men's team event.

The rest of the money was given to coaches and other support staff,

"If every archer and related personnel, including me, continue to work hard, the Korean archery team's great history will continue," said Chung Eui-Sun, company vice chairman, at a presentation Wednesday. Chung Eui-Sun is also president of the Korea Archery Association

Chung Mong-Koo, as the former and now honorary president of the association, has spent more than 30 billion won over the past 27 years to train the country's archers, the company said.

The Koreans have dominated the Olympic competition since the 1980s when team events were added to individual competitions for the first time, raising the number of golds at stake to four.

Since the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the Korean team has won a total of 18 gold, nine silver and five bronze medals. It has won every gold medal in the women's archery except for the individual event in Beijing in 2008.

# Formula One: Belgian GP extended through to 2015



BRUSSELS (AFP) - The Belgian Grand Prix has won an extension through to 2015, Etienne Davignon, chairman of organisers Spa Grand Prix, said Thursday after signing a contract with the region of Wallonia and Formula One officials.

The current deal for the race at circuit at the legendary Spa-Francorchamp circuit expired after this year's race scheduled for September 2.

No details of the extension were revealed but Belgium's Belga news agency quoted the Wallonian minister of finance, Jean-Claude Marcourt, as saying the value of the contract had fallen, though he did not specify by how much.

The race's future had been

### in some doubt after Formula One ringmaster Bernie Ecclestone said in April that a race in France could make a return from next year and be held in alternative years with Belgium.

Marcourt said the French had not followed up on that proposal and hence the Belgian contract was being extended.



# Rallying: Spectator suffers serious head injury in Germany

BERLIN (AFP) - A spectator was hospitalised with a serious head injury and three others were left hurt following an accident in Trier on the eve of the Rally of Germany, local police reported Thursday.

The accident happened during a 'shakedown' around the town of Konz, a trial run before today's timed stage, when a spectator was struck by a tyre after it flew into a group of spectators.

À spectator was airlifted to

hospital with severe head injuries after being hit by the tyre from a Subaru Impeza driven by Peru's Nicholas Fox and Argentina's Fernando Mussano.

The three other spectators were left with minor injuries and the day's session was later cancelled.

The Rally of Germany, the ninth race of the World Rally Championships, starts today and finishes on Sunday.





## Tennis: Federer-Murray, Venus-Serena US Open semis possible

NEW YORK (AFP) - Defending champion Novak Djokovic will avoid Roger Federer and Andy Murray until the final while the Williams sisters could meet in the semi-finals as a result of the US Open draws made on Thursday.

On the men's side, where Spanish star Rafael Nadal is absent because of continuing knee trouble, the draw set up a possible rematch of the Wimbledon and Olympic fi-



Roger Federer, The ATP Ranked World No.1 Tennis Player 2012

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Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com nals in the semi-finals with Murray and Federer in the same half of the draw.

World No. 1 Federer, who won his 17th Grand Slam title by beating Murray in last month's Wimbledon final, won five US Open titles in a row from 2004 through 2008.

He will start against American Donald Young.

Top seed Federer could face Czech sixth seed Tomas Berdych in the quarter-finals while Murray, the third seed who beat Federer for Olympic gold earlier this month at Wimbledon, opens against Russian Alex Bogomolov.

Murray could meet French fifth seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the last eight.

Serbian second seed Djokovic, who opens against Italy's Paolo Lorenzi, could face Argentina's seventhseeded Juan Martin Del Potro in the quarter-finals and Serb eighth seed Janko Tipsarevic or Spanish fourth seed David Ferrer in the semi-finals. Venus also was slotted into the same half of the draw as her sister Serena, meaning they could only meet in a semi-final with Russian third seed Maria Sharapova and Belarus top seed Victoria Azarenka in the opposite half.

A key factor standing in the

A key factor standing in the way of a Williams-Williams meeting is Germany's sixth-seeded Angelique Kerber, who ousted Venus at the Olympics and ended the 19-match win streak of Serena last week at Cincinnati.

Kerber, who opens against Britain's Anne Keothavong,



Maria Sharapova number 1 Women Tennis player (TPA)

Del Potro, the 2009 US Open champion, opens against compatriot David Nalbandian and could meet 2003 winner Andy Roddick in the round of

On the women's side, seven-time Grand Slam winner Venus Williams lurked as a dangerous unseeded floater and ended up in the same quarter of the draw as Polish second seed Agnieszka Radwanska.

has a second-round date against either Venus Williams or US wildcard Bethanie Mattek-Sands. If Venus gets into the third

If Venus gets into the third round, her highest-rated rival before the last eight would be 10th seed Sara Errani of Italy. But then could come Radwanska followed by her sister Serena.

Serena, who opens against US rival Coco Vandeweghe in a rematch of last month's Stanford final, might meet Danish eighth seed Caroline Wozniacki in the quarter-finals.

Top seed Azarenka opens against Russia's Alexandra Panova and could meet defending champion Samantha Stosur of Australia in the quarter-finals.

Stosur begins her title defense against Croatian Petra Martic and would meet a qualifier in round two but could face a fourth-round matchup against three-time US Open winner Kim Clijsters in the Belgian's farewell event.

Sharapova, the 2006 US Open champion, opens against Hungary's Melinda Czink and could meet Czech Petra Kvitova in the last eight.





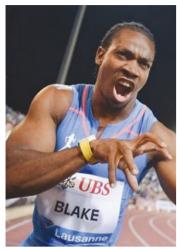


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# Athletics: Blake runs second fastest 100m of all time



LAUSANNE, Switzerland - (AFP) - Jamaica's Yohan Blake ran the second fastest 100m of all time in Thursday, clocking 9.69sec at the Lausanne Diamond League meeting.

World champion Blake, who was silver medallist behind Usain Bolt at the London Olympics, finished ahead of America's Tyson Gay in 9.83sec with Nesta Carter of Jamaica in 9.95sec.

Only Bolt -- with 9.58sec and 9.63sec -- has run faster.

Usain Bolt eased to victory in the 200m at the Lausanne Diamond League meeting.

Bolt, fresh from his second successive triple gold haul at the Olympics, took victory in 19.58sec, ahead of Dutch runner Churandy Martina and compatriot Nickel Ashmeade.

"I am definitely very pleased. It was a good run for the end of the season. I just wanted to have fun," said Bolt.

America's Carmelita Jeter edged the women's 100m, thrillingly turning the tables on Olympic champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce of Jamaica.

Fraser-Pryce had defeated Jeter in the final at the Games earlier this month, but she took victory on Thursday, dipping just at the right time at the line with both runners clocking 10.86sec.

America's Jason Richardson won the 110m hurdles in 13.08sec in a race devalued by the disqualification of Olympic champion Aries Merritt for a false start.

Qatar's Moutaz Essa Barshim Ahmed, a bronze medallist at the Olympics, won the high jump, getting the better of Games gold medallist Ivan Ukhov.



# NHL: Club owners, players far apart as deadline nears



TORONTO (AFP) - NHL commissioner Gary Bettman says new contract talks with players to avoid a lockout next month are stalled because players want to maintain the status quo while club owners seek a better deal.

The NHL, which lost the entire 2004-2005 season in a labour dispute, faces a September 15 deadline to produce a new deal, with Bettman saying the NHL will impose a lockout and shut down the league if no new deal is struck by then.

That would jeopardize the scheduled October start of the 2012-2013 campaign and scuttle the popularity the sport has rebuilt with supporters since the shutdown.

"We are focused on making a deal," Bettman said, claiming the NHL Players Association (NHLPA) "wants to keep things the way they are and that is slowing the process" and sides are far apart on financial terms.

The union made a proposal to the club owners on issues related to waiver rules, the NHL Draft, contract buyouts and boosting playoff payouts to levels last seen before the lost season.

Owners were able to impose most of their agenda after the prior shutdown but only after losing an entire season, a first in North American sport, because they could not agree with players on how to divide \$2.1 billion in revenues.

## Marathon: Shobukhova to seek fourth Chicago title in a row



CHICAGO (AFP) - Russia's Liliya Shobukhova will attempt to win an unprecedented fourth consecutive Chicago Marathon women's title in the 35th running of the event on October 7, organizers announced on Thursday.

Shobukhova, unbeaten in three Chicago starts, was unable to finish the Olympic marathon in London earlier this month due to stomach cramps.

"It was heartbreaking to withdraw from the Olympic Marathon after I had trained so hard and my preparation had gone so well," Shobukhova said. "But I am still very fit and in good health, and I am going to focus all my energy on a great performance at the Chicago Marathon."

Shobukhova ran the thirdfastest time in history last year to win in 2 hours 18 mins 20 secs.

"There's no place that I feel more comfortable than when I am competing in Chicago," she said. "I love the course and appreciate the support from the fans. I'm especially motivated to win for the fourth time in a row."

Shobukhova's fourth overall victory would tie her for the Chicago record owned by Khalid Khannouchi, who won four times in six years with titles in 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2002.

But her rivals will include Kenya's Lucy Kabuu, who owns a personal best of 2:19:34, and Ethiopia's Ejegayehu Dibaba, last year's runner-up to the Russian in 2:22:09.

Kenya's Florence Kiplagat was forced to withdraw due to an injury.